ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Limiting propagation of requests for a file in a peer to peer media sharing system may be accomplished by sharing index information associated with the file from a first network node to a second network node in the peer to peer system, updating a distance counter in the index information by the second network node to denote the sharing of the index information about the file, and setting a request propagation limit in a request packet for requesting the file by the second network node to the distance counter.